dry sand seems inconsistent with the field observations, but the sand in the terrarium contained much more water than the moist sand in which the specimens were found in the field. It may be that the dry sand in the terrarium was simply the lesser of two evils.

The most profitable collecting procedure is to turn one of the larger logs and rake the soil underneath parallel to the log, raking a little deeper with each stroke. The tool found most suitable for this purpose is a four-pronged potato rake. When the lizards are exposed they will burrow at once, and the collector must act exceedingly quickly, scooping up a double handful of sand in the hope that it will contain a specimen.

Undoubtedly these lizards spend most of their time underground, but they may at times come to the surface of the soil. One specimen was taken under a small piece of bark lying underneath a large log. With this exception, all taken in the wild were actually underground although several were only an inch or so below the surface. A specimen kept alive in captivity was seen occasionally to come to the surface and lie under a small piece of bark. S. R. Telford, Jr., informs me that one which he kept alive for several weeks was seen on the surface at night several times. It seems unlikely that an animal so modified for subterranean existence as *Neoseps* spends much time foraging above ground.

Because of its burrowing habits and restricted habitat, *Neoseps* probably lacks any significant predators. The only other species that were found occupying the same underground area were *Rhineura floridana* and *Eumeces onocrepis*. *Eumeces inexpectatus* is often found under the logs in the scrub but none were seen actually in the soil. The fact that some of the *Neoseps* have regenerated tails may or may not be significant as indicating predation. The only case observed of a species preying on *Neoseps* was on September 11, 1950, when a very small specimen (35 mm snout-to-vent length) was placed in the same jar with a large and a small *Eumeces inexpectatus*. The specimens were carried directly to the car but upon arrival the *Neoseps* was nowhere to be seen. The only evidence of a *Neoseps* was found in its stomach. The capture of the *Neoseps* and the *inexpectatus* and the return to the car took place within a 10 minute period. The specimen that was eaten was the smallest *Neoseps* captured and after removal from the stomach of the *Eumeces* showed quite a different color pattern than others observed. The skin between the scales was a brilliant

blue, much the same color as the tails of young *Eumeces inexpectatus*. In fresh specimens of *Neoseps* the skin between the scales is white with no trace of blue. It is possible that the gastric juices of the *inexpectatus* may have been a contributing factor in this coloration.

Very little data were gathered on the breeding habits of the species except observations on the eggs and testes of adults. A female (56 mm snout-to-vent length) taken May 7, 1950, contained two well developed but unshelled eggs. The two eggs measured 9.3 mm by 5.2 mm. A female taken May 3, 1950 (54 mm snout-to-vent length) had spent oviducts. A female taken September 11, 1950 (54 mm snout-to-vent length) contained large ovarian eggs. A male taken September 4, 1950 (54 mm snout-to-vent length) had enlarged testes measuring 2.3 mm. More data are needed on the breeding activities before anything definite can be ascertained.

Several species of soft-bodied insects were placed with individuals in captivity but captive specimens could not be induced to eat. Specimens preserved immediately in the field were examined for stomach contents. The most abundant item in both bulk and number in the 4 stomachs containing food was termites. Also found were click beetle larvae, 1 dipterous larva, 1 pseudoscorpion pincer, 1 mandible of a neuropterous larva, unidentifiable insect remains, and sand and debris. Parasitic roundworms were in 3 of the stomachs. The main staple of the diet seems to be termites, which are common under the logs and wood debris in the scrub but have not been observed in the sand itself.

Two instances of skin shedding were observed and it was noted that the skin was cast off in large patches. A small specimen in captivity completely shed its skin in 4 days. One was captured September 11, 1950, with the posterior half of the old skin already shed, and it was noted that the specimen in captivity also shed its posterior skin first.

All the specimens were seen or captured during daylight hours. Two trips were made to the scrub at night but no *Neoseps* were seen on either occasion.

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THE PREVALENCE OF PINWORM INFECTION AMONG FIRST GRADERS OF TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, AND VICINITY

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The present study was made to discover the incidence of pinworm infection among young school children in Tallahassee and vicinity. It also seemed desirable to determine the effect of treatment carried out in the school instead of in the home.

For a number of years prior to 1941-1942, diagnosis of pinworm infection was made by the NIH swab (Hall, 1939). Hall's technique was superseded by a more effective method discovered by Graham (1941) and modified by Jacobs (1942). Graham and Jacobs advocated the use of adhesive cellophane tape to pick up the worm ova from the skin of the perianal region. In the present study a modification of this method was employed. Here, scotch tape, cut into ¾ inch squares, was touched to the perianal skin and then placed, adhesive side down, on glass slides and examined under the 16 mm objective. The ova with active embryos (larvae) were easily detected through the tape.

Since it was not feasible to offer free treatment to all infected children, the school with the highest incidence was chosen for further study and for modified treatment consisting of enteric coated gentian violet tablets administered in the school by the teacher under the supervision of the Leon County Health Physician. Two pre-treatment examinations were made on these children who were then examined at intervals of 1, 17, and 22 days after treatment.

Results

Results of the first examination in the school chosen for treatment were:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	43	49	92
Positive	27	16	43
Incidence	62.78%	32.44%	46.73%

Results of the second pretreatment examination in the same school were:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	46	49	95
Positive	15	24	39
Incidence	32.60%	48.97%	41.05%

Results of the post-treatment examinations were:

1. On the day following conclusion of treatment:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	14	21	35
Positive	4	2	6
Incidence	28.57%	9.52%	17.14%

2. Seventeen days after treatment:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	14	22	36
Positive	3	5	8
Incidence	21.43%	22.72%	22.22%

3. Twenty-two days after treatment:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	13	20	33
Positive	2	4	6
Incidence	15.38%	20.00%	18.18%

In regard to prevalence of the infection in first-grade children in all five elementary schools, the following results were obtained:

Children	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Examined	220	238	458
Positive	62	61	123
Incidence	28.18%	25.63%	26.85%

Discussion

The total incidence of infection in the five elementary schools surveyed (26.85%) is low when compared to that reported by investigators in other regions (Sawitz, *et al* 1939). Since most investigators believe that as many as seven negative tests are necessary in all cases before the subject can be declared free from